



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application:

Appl. No. : 09/748,889 Confirmation No.: 5705  
Applicant : Frederick W. Ryan, Jr. et al.  
Filed : Dec. 27, 2000  
Art Unit : 3621  
Examiner : C. Scherr  
Attorney Docket No. : F-212  
Customer No. : 00919 Date: April 27, 2004

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated Jan. 30, 2004, attached are:

- 1.) Amendments to the Claims (pages 2-10); and
- 2.) Appropriate Remarks (pages 11-17).

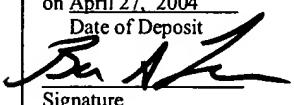
**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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